

REMARKS

This is a response to the Restriction Requirement issued on October 1, 2004 for the above-identified patent application. Prior to entry of this response, claims 1-75 were pending and subject to election/restriction in view of the Restriction Requirement. In the Restriction Requirement, Applicants were required to elect between three groups of claims for initial examination, namely (1) claims 1-45 and 67-75, (2) claims 46-50 and 65, and (3) claims 51-64 and 66. Applicants elect Group 1 (claims 1-45 and 67-75) for initial examination. Applicants understand that the remaining claims will be withdrawn from consideration pending examination of the elected claims and that Applicants may resume prosecution of the non-elected claims in a related application.

With the above election of claims for initial examination, Applicants submit that all of the issues raised in the Restriction Requirement have been addressed. If the Examiner has any questions or identifies any remaining issues that may be resolved in a telephone interview to advance prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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